**Tillages without telephone connections**

382. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages are there in the country without telephone connections, State-wise;

(b) by when each village in every State will have at least one telephone; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to bring the whole country telecomised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As on March 09, 1995, there are 4,31,672 villages without telephone connections. The State-wise details are given in Statement. *(See* below).

(b) and (c) Government have adopted a policy of providing a Public Telephone to each village in every state of the country progressively by 1997, subject to availability of resources.

**Statement**

*State-wise details of villages without Public Telephone Facility upto* 09-03-1995

| Sl. No. | Circle/State | Ttoiat Number of inhabited villages | No. of Villages without public Telephone connection as on 09-03-1995 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Andhra Fradesh | 29341 | 9015 |
| 2 | Assam | 20459 | 14871 |
| 3 | Bihar. | 79203 | 68695 |
| 4 | Gujarat Including Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu | 18735 | 7039 |
| 5 | Haryana | 7190 | 1050 |
| 6 | Himachal Pradesh | 16997 | 14299 |
| 7 | Jammu & Kashmir | 6447 | 5275 |
| 8 | Karnataka | 27024 | 18882 |
| 9 | Kerala | 1530 | 6 |
| 10 | Madhya Pradesh | 71386 | 48726 |
| 11 | Maharashtra (including Goa) | 36187 | 19329 |
| 12 | North-East (Including Mizoram, Nagaland, Arunachal, Meghalaya, Tripura & Manipur) | 15192 | 13377 |
| 13 | Orissa | 51057 | 43441 |
| 14 | Punjab | 13252 | 5132 |
| 15 | Rajasthan. | 37889 | 28947 |
| 16 | Tamil Nadu Including Pondicherry | 15826 | 3272 |
| 17 | Uttar Pradesh | 112568 | 91443 |
| 18 | West Bengal Including Sikkim & A&N Islands | 43306 | 38848 |
| | TOTAL | 603594 | 431672 |